

Message Text

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ACTION SCS-03

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TAGS: CASC MX (FRONCZAK, SANDRA)

SUBJECT: W/W: SANDRA FRONCZAK

REF MEXICO 9747

1. ON AUGUST 2, CCS CHIEF DANIELS CALLED ON RUBEN FIGUEROA FIGUEROA, GOVERNOR OF GUERRERO, AT CHILPANCINGO TO DISCUSS FRONCZAK CASE AND TRY TO IMPRESS UPON GOVERNOR IMPORTANCE WITH WHICH IT IS VIEWED IN U.S. GOVERNOR STATED AT OUTSET, AND REPEATED SEVERAL TIMES DURING COURSE OF CONVERSATION, THAT NO ONE WAS MORE INTERESTED THAN HE IN SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TO MATTER, AND THAT IT WAS DUE TO HIS INTEREST THAT SO MUCH HAD ALREADY BEEN ACCOMPLISHED. HE REFERRED TO ARREST OF TWO POLICEMEN PRESENTLY IN CUSTODY AND TO DRAGGING OF BLACK LAGOON. UPON BEING ASKED WHAT LED AUTHORITIES TO TWO POLICEMEN, GOVERNOR STATED THAT PURSE APPARENTLY BELONGING TO MRS. FRONCZAK HAD BEEN FOUND ON ROOF OF POLICE INSPECTION STATION SEVERAL DAYS AFTER DISCOVERY OF MR. SEMMELROTH'S BODY, WHICH DIRECTED ATTENTION TOWARD POLICE. IT DEVELOPED, HE SAID, THAT TO POLICEMEN HAD NOT NOTICED PURSE WAS STILL IN THEIR JEEP WHEN THEY LEFT SCENE OF CRIME AND UPON DISCOVERING IT LATER, TOSSED IT UP ON ROOF. GOVERNOR SAID THAT AS RESULT OF INVESTIGATION DIRECTED TOWARD FINDING WHO HAD PUT PURSE ON ROOF, SOME FIFTY POLICEMEN HAD BEEN FOUND ENGAGED IN ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES AND HAD BEEN DISMISSED.

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2. WHEN ASKED WHETHER POLICE WERE STILL SEARCHING FOR MRS. FRONCZAK, GOVERNOR STATED HIS BELIEF THAT SHE WAS CERTAINLY DEAD BUT THAT BODY HAD BEEN DISPOSED OF ELSEWHERE THAN IN BLACK LAGOON AND PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE FOUND OWING TO DECOMPOSITION. WITH REGARD TO SEARCH FOR MISSING SUSPECTS, GOVERNOR SAID THAT IT WAS GOING ON ACTIVELY IN GUERRERO AND MICHOACAN, BUT THAT POLICE HAD FEW LEADS, ONLY NAME OF ONE AND NICKNAMES FOR OTHERS. IN DISCUSSING DIFFICULTIES IN LOCATING CRIMINALS, GOVERNOR MENTIONED THAT GUERRERO STATE IS FULL OF "COMMUNISTS, GUERRILLAS, AND DRIFTERS FROM ALL OVER MEXICO".

3. EVEN THOUGH GOVERNOR HAD ADMITTED THAT CONFESSIONS OF TWO POLICEMEN IN CUSTODY HAD BEEN OBTAINED UNDER TORTURE AND HAD SUBSEQUENTLY BEEN RETRACTED IN COURT, DANIELS ASKED IF HE MIGHT HAVE COPIES OF STATEMENTS. GOVERNOR AGREED AND TOLD HIS SECRETARY TO HAVE ATTORNEY GENERAL COME IN. AS HE HAD ALREADY BEEN TOLD THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL WAS SICK THAT DAY, DANIELS MENTIONED FACT TO GOVERNOR, WHOSE REPLY WAS THAT "HE'LL COME IN EVEN IF HE'S DYING". ATTORNEY GENERAL APPEARED SHORTLY THEREAFTER, NOT LOOKING VERY WELL AND COMPLAINING OF AMOEBAS, AND JOINED IN DISCUSSION. IT WAS ARRANGED THAT DURING TRIP TO MEXICO CITY LATER THIS WEEK, ATTORNEY GENERAL WOULD BRING COPIES OF STATEMENTS AND OF BALLISTIC EVIDENCE WHICH ALLEGEDLY ESTABLISHES THAT BULLET WHICH KILLED MR. SEMMELROTH CAME FROM GUN OF ONE OF POLICEMEN.

4. WE HOPE TO HAVE DETAILED AND FRANK DISCUSSION WITH ATTORNEY GENERAL WHILE HE IS IN MEXICO AND TO DEAL WITH POINTS BROUGHT UP IN DEPT'S RECENT TELEGRAM. GOVERNOR WAS NOT FULLY INFORMED ON ALL DETAILS OF CASE, AND ATTORNEY GENERAL TOO UNWELL TO PRESS FOR LENGTHY DISCUSSION AT THAT TIME.
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